

*Huascarán Norte, Northeast Face.* Leo Brigger and I climbed in the Cordillera Blanca from May 9 to June 10. For acclimatization we climbed Ishinca, the east face of Ranrapalca and Pisco. From May 29 to 31 we ascended the northeast face of Huascarán Norte. [Monsieur Siegenthaler had believed that they were doing a new route, but it would seem from his description and from people with whom he talked in Peru that they followed the route of the 1972 French party led by Jean Fréhel. This excellent route has been repeated several times. See *A.A.J.*, 1973, page 453-4.—*Editor.*] The face rises some 4000 feet at an average of 50° to 65°. It then abuts a 350-foot rock barrier at about 20,675 feet which has very difficult rotten rock.

MICHEL SIEGENTHALER, *Club Alpin Suisse*

*Huascarán Norte, French Route, North Face.* During mid July Tom Sciolino and I climbed the 1966 French Route on the north face of Huascarán Norte. The approach from Lake Llanganuco to the base of the face took 1½ days. From a bivy site in the 'shrund at the foot of the spur, the climb required the better part of 5 days. We descended via La Garganta to Musho. We encountered unconsolidated snow ridges and flutings, and difficult rock and ice. Although loose in sections, the climb was free from rockfall (unlike the north face proper). Given its diverse and challenging nature, the route is indeed a classic.

MARK HESSE

*Pirámide, Northwest Face, Artesonraju, Chinchey.* In June Steve Friddle, Eric Peterson and I headed to the Laguna Parón for a month of climbing. A quick warm-up attempt on Pisco led to pulmonary edema for Peterson. We are grateful to the boss at the Electroperú project for evacuating him to Huaraz. With Eric gone, Friddle and I turned to Pirámide. We climbed to the low saddle on Pirámide's west ridge, but the ridge was out of the question. We decided on the steep northwest face. After traversing four pitches along the lower lip of the bergschrund we crossed it. Three pitches on 60° névé brought us to a bivouac under an ice cliff at 18,000 feet. The next morning, June 9, we climbed a pitch of 80° water ice to a sloping bench. Two moderate pitches took us to the steep ice flutes of the upper face. After several steep pitches, we were forced to traverse six flutes to the left into a major flute, which led to the west ridge just below the summit. Our route may be a new variation. Peterson returned. On June 13 and 14 all three of us climbed Artesonraju's smooth south face. Using running belays, with two or three belays between us at all times, we climbed quickly, in 7½ hours, with 2½ hours to descend. On July 23 I soloed Chinchey's northwest face from the Pucaranra-Chinchey col. Due to melting and little snowfall, some classic ice routes of the 1960s and early 1970s may be very difficult now. A final word of warning: because it is so easy to move quickly to high altitude, the possibility of edema should be taken very seriously.

PAUL DVIRNAK, *Unaffiliated*